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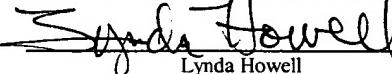
In re Application of:

Robert D. Barnes et al.

Serial No.: 09/448,940

Filed: November 24, 1999

For: IMAGE DATA COMPRESSION
EMPLOYING MULTIPLE
COMPRESSION CODE TABLES§ Group Art Unit: 2624
§ Examiner: Do, Anh Hong
§ Atty. Docket: GEMS:0071/YOD
§ 15-IS-5393Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
July 21, 2003	_____ Date
 Lynda Howell	

**RESPONSE TO
FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED MAY 20, 2003**

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on May 20, 2003. In the Office Action, the Examiner maintained rejection of claims 1 and 24-27 as being anticipated by Hirabayashi et al., and the rejection of claims 2-27 as unpatentable over Hirabayashi et al. in view of Puri. The references once again have been carefully reviewed and the pending claims are believed to be patentable over the references. Reconsideration and allowance of the following remarks are requested.

The present application includes four independent claims, namely claims 1, 12, 18 and 24. Each of the independent claims includes recitations relating to the use of multiple compression tables for compressing independent subregions of an image data stream.